

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 47

Introduced by Senator DeSaulnier

June 11, 2011

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 47—Relative to Health in All Policies.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 47, as amended, DeSaulnier. Health in All Policies.

This measure would, among other things, request that the Strategic Growth Council and the member agencies, departments, and offices of the Health in All Policies Task Force, as established by Executive Order S-04-10, provide leadership on implementing the recommendations put forth in the Health in All Policies Task Force Report, and would encourage interdepartmental collaboration with an emphasis on the complex environmental factors that contribute to poor health and inequities when developing policies.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, California and its residents face a growing burden
- 2 of largely preventable chronic illnesses such as heart disease,
- 3 stroke, obesity, and diabetes; and
- 4 WHEREAS, People in disadvantaged communities often have
- 5 fewer resources for health, which is reflected in significantly higher
- 6 burdens of chronic illness, worse health outcomes, and shorter life
- 7 expectancies; and
- 8 WHEREAS, The health and well-being of all people is a critical
- 9 element in supporting a healthy and prosperous California,
- 10 including economic sustainability, increasing workforce

1 participation and productivity, and slowing the ongoing rise in
2 medical care expenditures; and

3 WHEREAS, The physical, economic, and social environments
4 in which people live, learn, work, and play influence the adoption
5 of healthy lifestyles, by making it more or less difficult for
6 individuals to choose behaviors that promote or diminish health;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, These environments are significantly influenced
9 by policies developed by various state agencies and departments
10 relating to housing, transportation, education, air quality, parks,
11 criminal justice, employment, and other policy areas; and

12 WHEREAS, Public health agencies alone cannot change these
13 environments, but must work collaboratively with the many other
14 governmental agencies, businesses, and community-based
15 organizations that are best positioned to create healthy
16 communities; and

17 WHEREAS, Strategies to create healthy communities create
18 cobenefits by simultaneously supporting state goals of improving
19 air and water quality, protecting natural resources and agricultural
20 lands, increasing the availability of affordable housing, improving
21 infrastructure systems, planning sustainable communities, and
22 addressing climate change; and

23 WHEREAS, Health in All Policies is an integrated approach
24 that is being used internationally and in California to achieve better
25 health outcomes and greater sustainability by incorporating a health
26 aspect into policy development across all government sectors; and

27 WHEREAS, The Health in All Policies approach uses health
28 as a linking factor in bringing people together from across sectors
29 to address major societal issues, focuses on cobenefits and win-win
30 strategies, and harnesses the power that agencies and departments
31 can bring through their areas of individual expertise; and

32 WHEREAS, California's Health in All Policies Task Force was
33 established by Executive Order S-04-10 on February 23, 2010,
34 under the auspices of the Strategic Growth Council; and

35 WHEREAS, The Health in All Policies Task Force, which
36 includes representatives from 19 state agencies, departments, and
37 offices, developed a broad-ranging set of recommendations geared
38 at improving the efficiency, cost effectiveness, and collaborative
39 nature of state government, while promoting health and other goals
40 of the Strategic Growth Council; now, therefore be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
2 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature requests that the Strategic
3 Growth Council and the member agencies, departments, and offices
4 of the Health in All Policies Task Force provide leadership on
5 implementing the recommendations put forth in the Health in All
6 Policies Task Force Report; and be it further

7 *Resolved,* That the Legislature encourages interdepartmental
8 collaboration with an emphasis on the complex environmental
9 factors that contribute to poor health and inequities when
10 developing policies in a wide variety of areas, including, but not
11 limited to, housing, transportation, education, air quality, parks,
12 criminal justice, and employment; and be it further

13 *Resolved,* That the Legislature—~~consider~~ *encourages*
14 *consideration of* both short- and long-term health impacts, costs,
15 and benefits, where appropriate, when weighing the merits of
16 proposed legislation; and be it further

17 *Resolved,* That the Legislature encourages public officials in all
18 sectors and levels of government to recognize that health is
19 influenced by policies related to air and water quality, natural
20 resources and agricultural land, affordable housing, infrastructure
21 systems, public health, sustainable communities, and climate
22 change, and to consider health when formulating policy; and be it
23 further

24 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
25 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.